3AI project report: Sept. 30th, 2013

# Objectives:

Due to the fact that I don’t want to respect any schedule during this project long, I chose no specific objective for this couple of weeks.

# Activities:

Preamble note: I contacted Ms. Tani in order to have an appointment with her to discuss about the way I can try to improve myself concerning my “optimism”. The appointment is going to have place in October, 10th. For the moment, I’m on the “Stand by” mode concerning this point; waiting for Ms. Tani advices.

Even if I had no specific objectives, I had an order to follow which means that I had to start by the beginning: Prepare the basis of my project, in other words: the basic vocabulary. So here is the list of the activities I’ve done:

* Basic auto mechanic course research on internet.
* Reading of articles.
* Specific vocabulary translation.
* Terms listing.

Actually, I’ve done all the activities above at the same time. I didn’t make it in any order (Making the research first before starting the reading for example).

What I’ve done is looking for interesting pages on internet, and whenever I found one, I read it and wrote down all the technical terms I need to remember. I hadn’t to look for the translation for every single term because in most of the times, the schemas or sketches helped me guess what the terms means: That was a really good point because it made the job not boring at all.

Two main points I noticed:

First of them is that there’s an infinite list of terms to remember, it’s not feasible to list all of them.

The second is that I overestimated my knowledge in this field. Actually what I know the best is the very basic type of engines. I still have a lot to learn so I’m pretty sure that the work won’t consist only on having my knowledge “translated” during this project. I thought that the only things I had to update my knowledge about were injection, suspension and gearboxes when I didn’t even knew that flathead engine’s valves aren’t put in the same place as in the HEMI engines. This is why this period’s work was concentrated only on the engines and not suspensions and gearboxes.

# Evaluation:

First of all, I want to say that I was really surprised of the fact that I was very comfortable with making the research in parallel of the reading. It’s absolutely not the way I am used to work but I think that the reason is that cars are my passion, which means that I didn’t feel like working when I was reading those articles, especially that as I said before, I was learning things I didn’t knew before.

The fact that I found out that I still have got a lot to learn about engine made me have a doubt about if I’m going to have enough time for engines, suspensions and gearboxes. It’s in such situations that I normally evaluate the time I need and program every single task to have everything done before the deadline. This time, I’m going to do it differently: I will take my time and accord enough attention to every step and see how I am going to deal with this lack of organization.

# Conclusion:

I don’t know if I will have reached all the goals I fixed in the begging by the end of the semester. I would be sure that I would if I organize my work, but I won’t. After all, learning to deal with uncertainty is more important to me.

Maybe that my “optimism” problem is linked to my “excess of organization” one: I think that I want to have every single task of my work scheduled because of my fear of not achieving the work on time… Maybe!

# Resources:

* <http://auto.howstuffworks.com/engine.htm>
* <http://auto.howstuffworks.com/hemi1.htm>
* <http://www.anglaisfacile.com/free/voc/car.php>